



WORLD AGAINST



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SECOND FEATURE

CAPTAIN
ATOM





S.T.A.R. LABS.

...LATE...

FLAMEBIRD.

NIGHTWING.

ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER...

DIVINE SPARK

part 3

GREG RUCKA and ERIC TRAUTMANN: Writers - PERE PÉREZ: Artist
JAVIER MENA: Colorist - ROB LEIGH: Letterer - CAFU with SANTIAGO ARCAS: Cover
WIL MOSS: Asst. Editor - MATT IDELSON: Editor

SUPERMAN
created by
Jerry Siegel
and Joe Shuster

NIGHTWING
AND
FLAMEBIRD











SCIENCE POLICE
HEADQUARTERS.

GENERATORS
ON.

K-CHINK

INSIDE.

NEAT
ROOM.

SOLAR EMITTERS ARE *BATHING* YOU
BOTH IN RED SUNLIGHT, *SUBSONIC*
GRINDERS IN EVERY WALL.

IN *HERE*, YOU'RE JUST
LIKE *EVERYBODY*
ELSE.

DOES THAT MEAN
YOU WILL *TREAT*
US LIKE *EVERYBODY*
ELSE?

NOT
ON YOUR
LIFE.

120 THE 100
Q-5007?

...T...
...T...
T-27CL...

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?

JUST...JUST TIRED...

...-da 10?
Q-5007...

...I'LL BE
FINE...

IN
ENGLISH,
PLEASE.

WHAT DO
YOU INTEND
TO DO WITH
US?

I INTEND TO SEND
YOU TWO *PACKING*. BY
LAW, NO KRYPTONIAN
IS ALLOWED ON
EARTH.

YOU'LL GO
BACK TO NEW
KRYPTON.









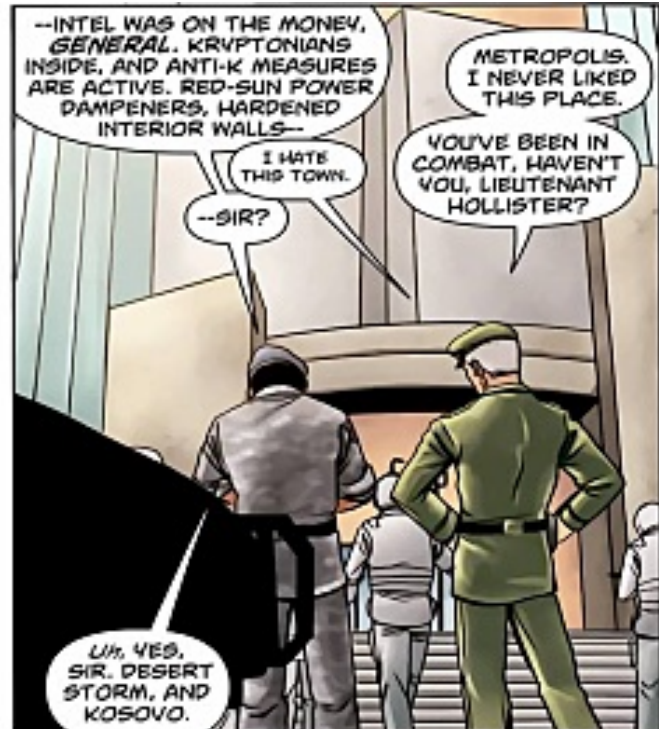


ZOD HAS SPIES ON EARTH. AGENTS WHO HAVE **WORMED** THEMSELVES DEEP UNDERCOVER.

THEIR MISSION IS TO PREPARE THE **BATTLEGROUND**. THEIR MISSION IS TO ASSURE THAT NEW KRYPTON WILL WIN THE COMING WAR.









GENERAL.

LOIS.

YOU'VE BEEN BUSY, AND YOU'VE GOT A LOT TO ANSWER FOR.

YES, I HAVE.

BUT I DON'T ANSWER TO YOU.

I WANT THE ALIENS IN MY CUSTODY.

RIGHT NOW.



OR WHAT? YOU'LL OPEN FIRE ON A POLICE STATION IN THE HEART OF METROPOLIS?

ANYTHING TO GET THE JOB DONE, IS THAT IT? WE KNOW, GENERAL. WE KNOW--



THEY'RE YOURS. TAKE THEM.

...WHAT?

MY FIRST PRIORITY IS TO PROTECT MY PEOPLE, MS. LANE. AND THE KRYPTONIANS AREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

SO THEY'RE ALL YOURS, GENERAL. HELP YOURSELF. THE SCIENCE POLICE WILL NOT STAND IN YOUR WAY.



GUARDIAN KNOWS WHERE HIS DUTY LIES, LOIS.

WITH HIS FELLOW MAN, NOT WITH OFFWORLD TRASH.

SQUAD K, ACCOMPANY GUARDIAN INTO THE TOWER AND SECURE THE PRISONERS!



HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND?

MAYBE.

BECAUSE I THINK WHAT WE'RE ABOUT TO DO IS NUTS.

SQUAD K IS INSIDE THE SECURITY PERIMETER, HEADING INTO ZONE CHARLIE.

NO RESISTANCE.

GOOD. PATCH ME THROUGH TO SERGEANT CLOUD.

KNIFE ACTUAL TO KNIFE ALPHA. ON MY AUTHORITY, YOU ARE WEAPONS-FREE AT ANY SIGN OF RESISTANCE.

EVERY SHOT IS A GOOD ONE. ACKNOWLEDGE.

KNIFE ALPHA, I ACKNOWLEDGE.

GOOD HUNTING, SERGEANT CLOUD. LANE OUT.

--PRISONERS ARE IN HERE, SERGEANT.

YOU'VE GOT POWER DAMPENERS IN THERE?

SOMETHING THE TECH BOYS COBBLED TOGETHER. PUTS OUT LOW-LEVEL RADIATION, JUST LIKE A RED SUN.

MAKES THE K'S DOGILE AS KITTENS--

S.P. FIELD COMMANDER HARPER, AUTHORIZATION CODE RECOGNIZED. SYSTEM SHUT-DOWN ENGAGED.

--UNLESS YOU SWITCH 'EM OFF.

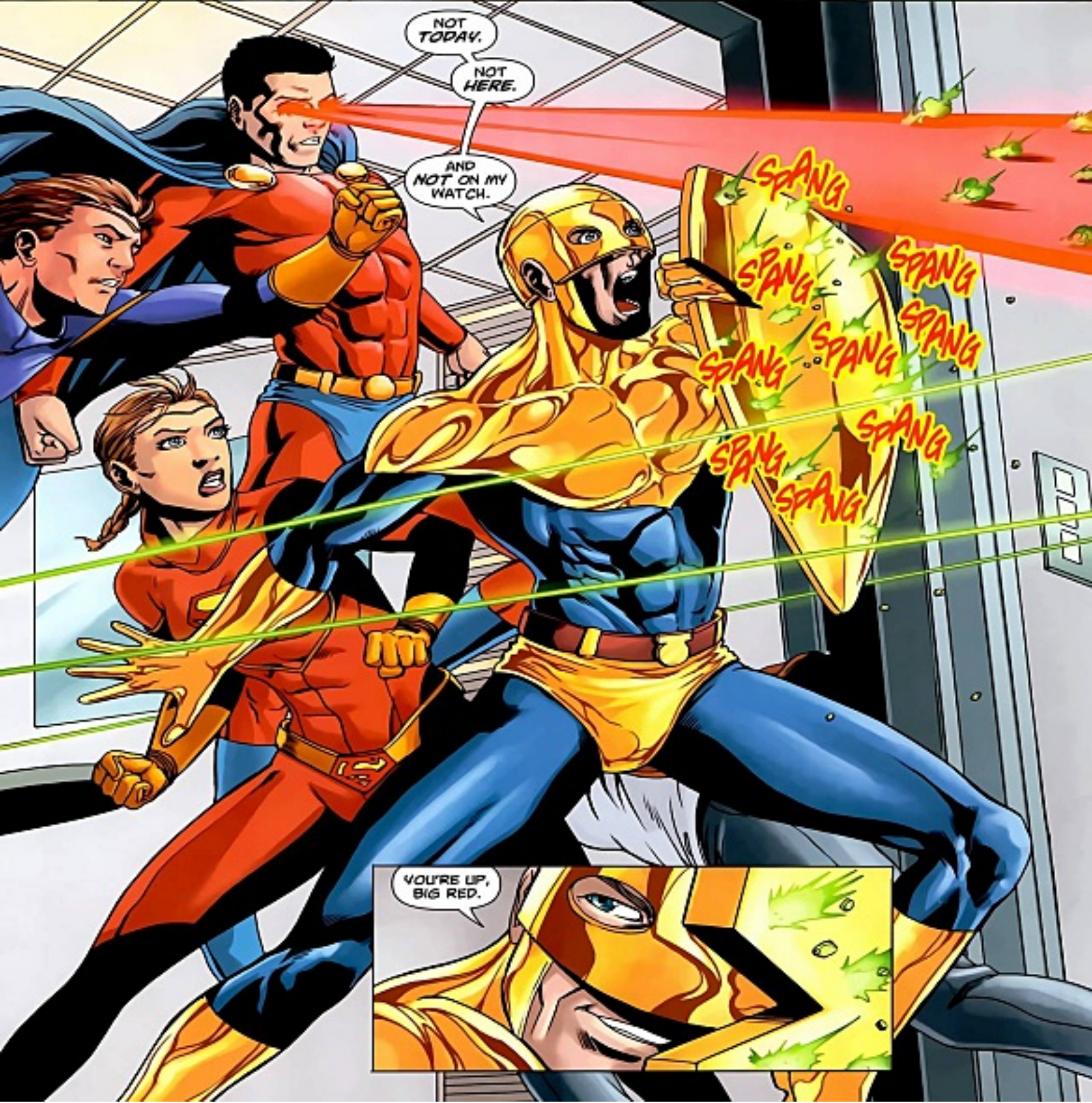
STAND DOWN, GENTLEMEN.

WE WON'T ASK YOU AGAIN.

HOSTILE CONTACT!

FIRE.

WAIT! HOLD YOUR FI--







KNIFE SEVEN TO OPS, I HAVE K'S MOVING THROUGH CENTRAL PROCESSING, I REPEAT, K'S MOVING THROUGH CENTRAL--

ROGER, KNIFE SEVEN. CLEARED TO ENGAGE. WATCH OUT FOR FRIENDLIES.

KEEP MOVING!

ALL PERSONNEL: CONDITION ANVIL. THIS IS NOT A DRILL. SECURITY BREACH IN PROGRESS.

OUT-017-8-0
0-507-0100.

DETONATION
CODE:
NIGHTFALL.

0-507-0100.

FMMMM

NIGHTFALL.

ENOUGH.
THE KRYPTONIANS
ARE IN THERE. MY
DAUGHTER IS
IN THERE.

BRING UP THE
RESERVE FIRETEAM.
I'M GOING IN.

VMMMM

I SAID...
GET
DOWN!

NNNG!

MMMMM



KA-BOOM!

TO BE CONTINUED IN **SUPERMAN** #696

AND NOW...
**CAPTAIN
ATOM**

THIS SHOULDN'T
BE HAPPENING.

NOT WHAT
I WANTED.

NO.

THESE ARE
HEROES.

THESE
SUPER-HEROES...

...SOME OF THEM
I EVEN THOUGHT
WERE MY FRIENDS.

CAPTAIN ATOM

CHAPTER SEVEN

JAMES ROBINSON - WRITER • CAFU - ARTIST
SANTIAGO AREAS - COLORIST • ROB LEIGH - LETTERER
WIL MOSS - ASST. EDITOR • MATT IDELSON - EDITOR







GREEN LANTERN, TRUST ME. CAPTAIN ATOM... HE'S NOT THIS EVIL GUY. MAYBE HE WAS, BUT--

MON'S RIGHT!



I'M LISTENING.

AND HONESTLY...



...MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE ALL LISTENED SOONER.

I TALK.

I TELL
THEM...

...I DON'T
KNOW...

NOTHING THAT MAKES
SENSE...NOT LIKE AN A-B-C
LINE OF EVENTS. HONESTLY,
MY HEAD DOESN'T HAVE
THAT YET. NOT ALL OF IT.

MY MEMORIES
LIKE A DREAM
I HAD DAYS AGO.
BITS OF IT FLOW.
OTHER BITS, THE
ORDER'S WRONG
AND IT'S VAGUE,
LIKE I'M SEEING
MY LIFE THROUGH
SPUN SUGAR.

BUT I
KNOW...

...I WAS A HERO.
NO. AM. I AM.

BUT
MONARCH...

...AND ALL
OF IT.

THE LIVES
I'VE TAKEN.
NOT ME, BUT...

...ME.

SO I TALK.

I WANT THEM
TO KNOW WHO
I AM NOW...

...HOW I FEEL.
HOW I--

STOP, CAPTAIN.
FOR THE LOVE
OF GOD, STOP.
WE GET IT.

SECONDED.
IF I HAVE TO HEAR
YOU SAY "MONARCH NO
MORE" ONE MORE TIME,
I SWEAR I'LL DELIVER MY
LUNCH ALL OVER YOUR
SHINY BLUE BOOTS.

BESIDES,
IT'S ALL KIND OF
REDUNDANT.

AND
SELF-PITYING, IF
YOU ASK ME.

WELL, I DON'T KNOW
ABOUT THAT, BUT YOU
DID SAY YOUR MEMORIES
ARE ON THE FRITZ, NATE.
THAT'S WHY I SAID IT'S
REDUNDANT...ALL THE
TALK ABOUT THE BAD
YOU'VE DONE...

...YOU NEED
TO BE REMINDED OF
SOMETHING...

"...YOU SAVED
THE WORLD."

WHEN LUTHOR
WAS PRESIDENT.
THE KRYPTONITE
METEOR HEADING
FOR EARTH.

YEAH,
CAPTAIN, WE
JUST SPOKE OF
ALL THAT.

AND SOME
OF IT I RECALL.
OTHER PARTS,
NO.



WELL,
REMEMBER
THIS...



"...YOU'RE A GREAT
AMERICAN HERO."



NO.



I NEED TO BELIEVE IT MYSELF. I DON'T.

MIRABAI'S WORLD, NOW THAT I DO RECALL ME, HER "ARROW," HER WEAPON, AND PEOPLE DIED.

I NEED TO GO BACK. FIX THINGS.

TO DO THAT, THOUGH, I NEED TO FIND A WAY... AND I HAVE NO IDEA HOW.



IT'S A MAGICAL REALM?

SURE SOUNDS IT. OSRES AND GOBLINS.



ZATANNA?

AWOL SINCE THE THING WITH HER DAD WENT DOWN.*

THEN WHO?

*SEE JLA #39 & 40.
--Blackest Mott



LATER, THEY MAKE SOME CALLS, OR WHAT PASSES FOR IT.

AND...





This past November, five lucky students from the Harvey Milk High School in New York got an all-access tour of the DC Comics offices. Our guests were participants in the school's career day, an event designed to highlight and promote positive gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender role models in the workplace. Not only did the young people get to see the process of creating a comic book from start to finish, but they also got to interact with DC staff members, as well as meet President and Publisher Paul Levitz, and art-direct an illustration with former Birds of Prey artist David Cole.

During the course of their time at DC, the students saw sneak previews of some big events coming up in the DCU including War of the Superman, JLA: Rise and Fall and other books still too top-secret to mention outside these walls. We were extremely happy to host such a wonderful bunch and hope to see them again soon!



DC NATION

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